



Michigan National Organization for Women

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Testimony
September 22, 2015
Before the Michigan House Criminal Justice Committee
Re: HB 4787 and HB 4830

Good morning Mr. Chair and members of the committee. My name is Bobbie Walton and I come before you today to testify on House Bills 4787 and 4830 for the members of the National Organization of Women from Michigan, Michigan NOW.

Michigan NOW is an organization advocating for the rights of women. We oppose House Bills 4787 and 4830 for the following reasons.

These bills are both veiled attempts to further burden women in their reproductive choices and will do nothing about the truly coercive acts against women's health and safety. We watch carefully the actions of this body to protect women from domestic violence and coerced sex. We would like to see attention paid to these threats to women's safety.

Existing law in the area of abortion rights states that women who chose abortion must give consent freely and without coercion. It seems to us this is sufficient and these laws are not necessary. Unnecessary law is a waste of time and our legislative resources.

Please note "no" on House Bills 4787 and 4830.

NOW's purpose is to take action to bring women into full participation in the mainstream of American society now, exercising all privileges and responsibilities thereof in truly equal partnership with men.